

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate a remarkable young man and true champion in my congressional district, Ian Amber. Ian is a straight A honor student at Palmetto Senior High School where he excels in various academic organizations. But unlike most teenagers, Ian had to overcome a great obstacle not normally faced by students.

At age 10, Ian was diagnosed with leukemia and underwent 3 years of intense chemotherapy treatment. Through perseverance, he beat cancer; and today, Ian spends his time helping children with life-threatening diseases.

He formed Kids That Care Pediatric and Cancer Fund, the only kid-run organization affiliated with a major hospital in South Florida, an organization in which he raises funds for sick children.

He also created Trading Places, a sensitive-training program for oncology nurses.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to help me in recognizing Ian's selfless achievements, and in commending him for being a shining example to us all. He represents Miami Palmetto well. He represents all of us well.

#### THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Broadway has announced a new play called "The Vagina Monologues." I quote, the promo states that "Vagina Monologues uses humor and drama to explore such things as sexual fantasies, orgasms, pelvic examinations and rape." Now if that is not enough to entice your condominium, this vaginal virtuoso is being billed as theater at its finest.

Unbelievable. What is next? Rectal Diaries? Men are dropping like flies in America from prostate cancer and Broadway is promoting vaginal titillation.

Beam me up. I advise all New York men to sleep on their stomachs, and I yield back all the STDs on the East Coast.

#### ANY MORE STORIES?

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. First it is inventing the Internet, then it is drugs for his mother-in-law and his dog. Now it appears the Vice President's imagination has really run wild again. When Governor Bush mentioned traveling to a disaster area with the head of FEMA, Mr. GORE added that he traveled with him too.

Untrue. Then claimed to be a strong supporter of the lockbox for Social Security and Medicare. Surprise, surprise, the Democrat filibuster holding up this legislation is waiting for his first sign of support. What about that poor Florida girl forced to stand in her class of 36 because there is no room for her desk? Guess what? Not true again.

What is that phrase about pants on fire? Any more stories?

#### THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

(Ms. RIVERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, the House has done its job, we passed the Violence Against Women Act by a vote of 415-3. Nevertheless, the authorization ran out on September 30, 2000.

This critical bill is supported by police officers, judges, prosecutors, governors, State attorneys general, social workers, men and women and children's advocates around the Nation. It deserves immediate attention from the other body.

The Violence Against Women Act was originally passed in 1994 and authorized over a billion dollars for law enforcement grants, judicial training, shelters, a national hotline, child abuse and prevention programs. Thousands of victims from every State, race, and socioeconomic level have relied on these services for protection from violence.

VAWA has saved lives and helped rebuild even more, and it has served to break the cycle of violence in so many families, by preventing children from perpetuating the violence they witness.

With the authorization already expired, I respectfully urge the other body to pass this important legislation.

#### SQUANDERED OPPORTUNITIES

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, Governor George W. Bush has rightly pointed out that this boom economy is an opportunity we should not squander. It is an opportunity to get our fiscal house in order to shore up programs like Social Security and Medicare for the next generation.

Unfortunately, the opposition does not seem to see it that way. This is the fourth year in a row that the Republican Congress will pay down the public debt. That will bring us to half a trillion dollars in paid-back debt, and we will do it while preserving the Social Security and Medicare trust funds 100 percent intact.

Mr. Speaker, 22 days ago we sent a letter to the President asking him to join us in this effort, but he has refused to respond.

The only thing we have heard on the matter is what the President said to the newspapers: "It depends on what our spending commitments are."

In other words, he would rather add billions of dollars in new spending than pay down the debt, and that is what Governor Bush means when he talks about squandered opportunities.

#### APPROVE COMMONSENSE GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

(Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, the clock is ticking and soon the 106th Congress may adjourn without passing common sense gun safety legislation. Today, we join people throughout the Nation concerned about young people and gun violence.

Earlier this week, I joined the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), the minority leader, and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) in calling on the gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT) to use his influence to complete work on the stalled Juvenile Justice Conference.

With the help of the gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT), we can jumpstart the conference to approve child safety locks, to close the gun show loophole and to ban high-capacity ammunition clips. I am pleased that Senator JOHN MCCAIN has endorsed closing the gun show loophole.

Governor Pataki has already brought common sense gun laws to my home State of New York. We need to bring similar legislation to all 50 States. Is there grassroots support for this legislation? You bet.

The Million Mom March demonstrated that people across the Nation want to make their communities safe from gun violence. Just this week, college students around the Nation participated in First Monday 2000. I am pleased that students from Long Island's Hofstra University participated in this grassroots educational issue.

To date, the gun lobby has prevented the Congress from approving national gun safety legislation. We do not have to repeat the past. I ask the gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT) to consider this.

#### DEBT REDUCTION STILL BEING HELD HOSTAGE

(Mr. HERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, today is day 23 of the debt reduction held hostage by the Clinton-Gore administration. It has been 23 days since Congress proposed to lock away 100 percent of the Social Security and Medicare surpluses and dedicate at least 90 percent